

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07

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FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3968

INFO USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 4911

DEPT PASS DOD

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, CI, US

SUBJECT: US-CHILEAN MUTUAL DEFENSE ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT OF 1952

1. DURING AMBASSADOR'S JULY 3 CALL ON FONMIN CARVAJAL, LATTER RAISED BILATERAL MUTUAL DEFENSE ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT SIGNED AT SANTIAGO APRIL 9, 1952, WHICH ENTERED INTO FORCE JULY 11, 1952. FONMIN SAID HE HAD BEEN LOOKING OVER AGREEMENT TO DETERMINE HOW LONG IT WILL BE IN FORCE. HE NOTED THAT IN 1968 USG NOTIFIED GOC OF TERMINATION OF GRANT AID (FOR MATERIEL) BUT STATED MILITARY SALES COULD CONTINUE. FONMIN ASSUMED THAT AGREEMENT OTHERWISE REMAINED IN FORCE BUT WOULD CONSIDER "VERY POSITIVE" US CONFIRMATION TO THAT EFFECT. AMBASSADOR SAID HE HAD NO INFORMATION TO THE CONTRARY BUT WOULD EXAMINE MATTER AND REPLY LATER.

2. COMMENT: IT APPEARS TO US THAT AGREEMENT REMAINS IN FORCE UNLESS TERMINATED UNDER PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE XI. IT IS UNLIKELY THAT FONMIN HAS ANY DOUBTS ABOUT THIS.

3. RATHER, WE BELIEVE THIS APPROACH IS DESIGNED TO PRESS US FOR MILITARY CREDITS/SALES WHICH WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO PROVIDE BECAUSE OF CONGRESSIONAL BAN ON MILITARY ASSISTANCE
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FOR CHILE.

4. WE HAVE NOT LOCATED IN OUR FILES 1968 NOTIFICATION TO GOC OF GRANT AID TERMINATION, BUT WE HAVE FOUND MATERIAL INDICATING GOC UNHAPPINESS WITH IMPENDING DECISION AT THAT TIME, AND BELIEVE IT MIGHT BE CONTRARY TO PROVISIONS OF AGREEMENT. CHILEAN ARMY RAISED QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE AGREEMENT AND THE SUSPENSION OF MILITARY AID DURING JANUARY 1975 VISIT OF MAJOR GENERAL GEORGE WALLACE (DOD/ISA). SENIOR CHILEAN ARMY OFFICERS HAVE SUBSEQUENTLY INDICATED TO USMILGP THAT THEY WONDERED WHAT CONSIDERATION HAD BEEN GIVEN TO THESE QUESTIONS.

5. WE PRESUME THAT OUR CONFIRMATION THAT AGREEMENT IS IN FORCE WILL EVOKE GOC SUGGESTION THAT, IN WITHHOLDING MILITARY ASSISTANCE, US IS FAILING TO IMPLEMENT AN AGREEMENT WE RECOGNIZE TO BE IN FORCE.

6. ACTION: REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS FOR REPLY TO FONMIN INCLUDING INDICATION WHETHER REFERENCE TO PERMISSIVE BUT NOT OBLIGATORY TERMS OF ART. I OF AGREEMENT IS ADEQUATE RESPONSE TO GOC POSITION ANTICIPATED PARA 5.
THOMPSON

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